

THE READING UNION.

Books suggested for the ensuing term.

"All the Russias," Henry Norman.

For those taking Class III. work this is an invaluable aid, as Mr. Norman speaks without ante-bear prejudice, and describes matters geographical and political.

"The Story of the Nations"—Russia.

This gives a lucid, clear account of the origin and growth of Russia, and no other book on the subject collects so much information on these obscure points.

"The Strenuous Life," Rossvelt.

An admirable book to read to boys, to whom many of the included speeches were addressed.

"The Road Mender," Michael Varelless, price 2/6.

This beautiful little book was by the daughter of Mrs. Dawson, whose papers in the P.R. we all valued so much. The fairy story about the "Blue Cats," which appeared in the P.R., gave one some inkling of the power and grace displayed in this book.

"The Principles of Western Civilization," B. Ridd.

This book ought to be read as a duty by all students of psychology—the doctrine worked out in it of the "projected efficiency of the future," is one which especially applies to educators.

"The Child's Bible." Publishers, Cassell & Co. Ltd., London.

This is illustrated. The Bible words are used, but unsuitable portions are omitted; it is written in "Stories." The events of the Life of Our Lord are taken chronologically.

"New Methods in Education," by J. Liberty Tadd. Publishers, Sampson Low, Marston & Co., London.

This is most useful for blackboard drawing, as it contains a regular course.

"Caroline the Illustrious."

Apart from the one redeeming feature of Caroline herself (who also is not an ideal character), these two volumes of Georgian gossip are wearisome reading. Nothing but a perpetual repetition of sordid time-serving and immorality, of state theft and jobbery. One is disgusted with Church, State, Royalty, Army, in fact every department of this great and mighty kingdom of ours, and immensely relieved to come out of those podgy covers into the comparatively broad light of the present day.

S. H.

"The Heart of the Empire."

These essays, on subjects of the most pressing social importance, are well worth perusal. The most striking are those on "The Children of the City" R. Bray), and "The Housing Problem." The tone of the whole book is very pessimistic, but probably this is so for the special object of drawing attention to the very real social evils of our time—though it leaves one with a feeling almost of hopelessness as to their remedy. Unfortunately some of the essays—notably that on "Imperialism"—take a somewhat one-sided view, which greatly detracts from their value; otherwise, facts speak for themselves, and in a very startling way sometimes!

E. M. E. W.